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Chief, Industrial Division, ORR

2 July 1957

Chief, Aircraft Branch, D/I

Unidentified Jet Aircraft at Tushino

1. In the 8th rehearsal the 1957 aviation day air show at Tushino an unidentified swept-wing jet aircraft, escorted by Fishbed fighters, was observed and photographed. The following preliminary estimates of size were made by ATIC:

Wing Span 76 Ft

Wing Sweep 50 Degrees

Wing Area 1200 Sw Ft.

Fuselage Length 86 Ft

Max Fuselage Depth 10 Ft

Overal Length 104 Ft

2. The aircraft has a highly-swept, cranked wing in the lowmid position, with a single flow fence located at each semi-span. The engine inlets are mounted high on and apart from the fuselage sides, well shead of wing leading edge. Twin ducts, 1 on each side of and bulged out from the fuselage, continue rearward over each wing root. These fair into a large twin-exhaust section at the rear fuselage, similar to the Farmer configuration. The 2 engines are probably located in the vicinity of, and above, the wing root section, I in each of the fuselage ducts. The fuselage is deep in the mid-section, flattened on the underside similar to the B-58, and tapers sharply upwards to the exhaust section. A skin-break line on the lower fuselage under the wing suggests the forward bulkhead of a bomb bay. A pointed plexiglass nose section is provided for the bombardier-navigator, with a bombing-radar radome conventionally located in the lower forward position. A large crew compartment is set atop the fuselage, similar to the B-58. The swept-back empennage assembly consists of a low horizontal (probably flying) tail, mounted below the exhaust section, and a large high-aspect-ratio vertical tail. Located at the base of the rudder and faired into the vertical fin, is a long pod with

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ballshaped aft end and a rod-like projection pointed aft. The appearance and size of this installation suggests a 1 or 2 gun flexible turret. There is no evidence of an inhabited gunners station; therefore, fire control is probably by remote radar operation from the flight deck, similar to the B-47. Located atop the vertical fin and projecting aft beyond the rudder, is a black-colored pod, pointed at the aft end. This is probably a radome for an automatic search/track fire-control radar. The large size of the efflux indicates an installation of very high thrust engines, probably incorporating afterburners. The general appearance of the aircraft is consistent with a supersonic speed capability of at least mach 1.5. The size of the aircraft places it in the medium range category.

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